

NCTE GENERAL MEETING
Friday, October 7, 2011
Center for People in Need – Lincoln, NE

Welcome Address: Presented by Molly O'Holleran, Nebraska State Board of Education-District 7.

Meeting Called to Order: President Schnabel called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Present: M. Adler, S. Alford, S. Bartholomew, N. Bateman, J. Beach, D. Bird, P. Blundell, P. Bone, R. Bork, S. Brown, D. Casey, T. Coe, M. Crouse, K. Danek, L. Danielson, B. Doll, L. Forester, D. Freese, C. Gay, B. Habrock, P. Heckman, F. Helmink, N. Huston, D. Jankovich, S. Katt, J. Kupper, M. Lenihan, M. Losey, J. Lopez, P. Ludeke, M. Lundgren, F. Marymee, L. Mihm, L. Moeller, Y. J. Moses, D. Moss, K. Peters, D. Phelps, D. Ponec, S. Ptacek, K. Rempp, C. Rice, P. Rippe, K. Rohwer, E. Scantling, M. Schlieder, B. Schnabel, B. Schweiger, J. Sears, S. Stake, M. Tebbe, M. Towey Schulz, D. Vitosh, J. Vlach, T. Von Essen, K. Wheeler, D. White

Guests: A. Arth, B. DeHart, D. Ernst, K. Huff, L. Zeller, P. Madsen, M. McFarland, M. Beiermann, K. Buller, M. Harouff, J. Havelka, C. McClain, M. O'Holleran, T. Parker, J. Woodland

Absent without alternate replacement: N. Huston, S. Jensen, N. Schnoor, A. Auten, P. Bohn, B. Hastings, J. Mitzelfelt

Declaration of Legal Meeting and Open Meetings Act: by President Schnabel.

Public Comments: None

Approval of the June 10, 2011 NCTE General Session Meeting Minutes: D. Jankovich moved and D. Moss seconded; minutes approved.

Executive Committee Minutes: August 26, 2011 minutes reviewed by President Schnabel.

Rule Status Report: S. Katt

- Rule 25 – Awaiting Governor's approval
- Rule 21 – Awaiting Attorney General's approval
- Rule 24 – Will go to State Board in November with anticipated December Public Hearing. Governor Approval anticipated by summer, 2012. An attempt has been made to be consistent with "two years teaching experience" language and provisional endorsement language in Rule 21.

Proposed Endorsements Ready for Full Council Action:

1. Principal – Mark Adler, NCTE Principal Endorsement Ad Hoc committee member, presented the Principal endorsement. "Two years teaching experience" needs further clarification.
2. School Psychologist (Special Education) – Beth Doll, UNL, and Kathy Huff (Lincoln Public Schools) presented the endorsement. A major change would be to omit section 000D.2 from the endorsement after study by NDE and representatives from the Ad Hoc Committee. D. Moss questioned if the new endorsement would require candidates to take the Advanced Praxis, PPST, and/or GRE tests? B. Doll clarified that if the PPST is required in order for the endorsement to become a teaching certificate, the programs will comply.

Proposed Endorsement Ready for First and Second Readings:

1. Special Education Generalist – Carol McClain, NDE and Special Education Endorsement Ad Hoc committee chair, presented the endorsement. Proposed changes include:
 - a. Section 6.63C - allow entry level teachers to work with a variety of special needs students, as there are specialists that can help the teacher, if necessary.
 - b. Section 6.63D - require 30 hours of general special education courses.
 - c. Section 6.62D1 - require 24 hours of professional education courses.
 - d. Name Change to *Special Education Generalist*, as this name implies that this endorsement is for a general entry level special education teacher, not for a teacher with a specialization in special education. The name change reflects the CEC standards to show that the skills included in this endorsement are on a general level, not a specialization level.

Questions arose concerning recertifying teachers—will special education teachers need to have these new qualifications for recertifying? School districts will need to determine this. L. Forester expressed concern for the middle school endorsements, especially if the K-9 level is dropped. Discussion ensued concerning the 54 required hours of coursework. C. McClain explained that the 30-hour general coursework would not include any of the 24 hours of professional coursework. J. Kupper stated that NACTE wanted clarification concerning the 54 hours of coursework as well. Could institutions revise the requirement hours to accommodate this new endorsement? J. Sears requested tabling the endorsement on the basis of concern that there are questions that need to be answered prior to moving first and second readings.

2. Superintendent – Jim Havelka, Superintendent Endorsement Ad Hoc chair, and Dan Ernst, Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA) presented the endorsement changes. This would now be a two-tiered endorsement in that candidates would:
 - a. Complete a standard program and get an “Initial Superintendent” endorsement.
 - b. Complete a mentoring program during the candidate’s first year as a superintendent, which would involve collaborating with a higher education institution and an educational professional organization that provides statewide professional development and training specifically for school administrators. The mentoring program would be at least 90 clock hours (3 credit hours) using professional development experiences gained during the year. The mentoring team would include a business manager and a fellow superintendent to assist, guide, and support the superintendent candidate. Upon completion, the endorsement changes to a “professional superintendent” endorsement for the candidate. Should a candidate not complete the professional development mentoring experience, the certificate would lapse. Those with a provisional endorsement would also have to complete the professional development mentoring experience during the first year of employment as a superintendent.

B. Doll questioned the requirement of a specialist or doctoral degree to be a superintendent, as is written in Rule 21. With this new endorsement, a candidate would not need an additional doctorate to get the Superintendent endorsement. Consistency between Rule 21 and Rule 24 should be verified.

3. Science – Jim Woodland, NDE and Science Endorsement Ad Hoc committee chair, presented the endorsement. The Guidelines will follow the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Standards, 2011. The major changes are:
 - a. Remove the Physical Science field endorsement.

- b. Increase the minimum required hours for the Science field endorsement to 60 credit hours—24 credit hours in one of the sciences and 12 credit hours in each of the other three science areas (36 credit hours).
 - c. Increase the science subject endorsements (biology, chemistry, earth and space, and physics) to 36 credit hours.
- 4. Language Arts – Tricia Parker, NDE and Language Arts Endorsement Ad Hoc committee chair, presented the endorsement. The Guidelines will follow the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Standards, 2012 and the International Reading Association (IRA) Standards, 2010. Proposed changes include:
 - a. Language Arts (field)—change required minimum hours to 60 credit hours, and add a reading instruction requirement.
 - b. English—increase required minimum hours to 36 credit hours and add a reading instruction requirement.
 - c. Reading and Writing—becomes a supplemental endorsement (18 credit hours) at both PK-6 and 7-12 levels (rather than just 7-12).
 - d. Reading Specialist—becomes PK-12, and remains a graduate level endorsement. D. Moss questioned the 30-credit hour minimum, as it is a graduate level endorsement.
 - e. Speech and Theatre subject endorsements—no major changes. There are no National Standards. Guidelines language was updated.
 - f. Eliminate Journalism and Mass Communications (subject) and Speech and Theatre (field) due to extremely low numbers of candidates completing those endorsements and limited teaching assignments.

Discussion included concern about recertifying when an endorsement has been dropped and what the process would include, if field endorsements (generalist) are needed rather than subject endorsements, and professional development and accountability.

Ad Hoc Update: P. Madsen

- 1. Early Childhood Education— the Ad Hoc Committee met September 16, 2011, and will continue on November 7. The Ad Hoc Committee plans to combine the current five Early Childhood endorsements into three Early Childhood endorsements, and hopes to be ready by the NCTE Executive Committee meeting in January, 2012.
 - 2. Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing— The November, 2010 Ad Hoc Committee recommendation is to eliminate the field endorsement and retain the subject endorsement. A meeting is planned for late fall, and the endorsement will tentatively be introduced to the NCTE Executive Committee in January, 2012.
 - 3. Special Education: Blind/Visually Impaired— Ad Hoc meeting will tentatively be held in February, 2012.
 - 4. Mathematics— Ad Hoc Committee will meet in February, 2012.
- Sign-up Sheets available at the Standing Committee meetings.

NDE Update:

Rule 20 and Educator Preparation Initiatives - S. Katt reported Rule 20 is still undergoing revisions. The national perception is that teachers are poorly trained and do not stay in the profession. Nebraska data indicates educator preparation is very good and Nebraska candidates stay in the profession much longer than the national averages.

Rule 21 and Teacher Certification Updates – K. Peters stated that Rule 21 is now at the Governor's office awaiting approval. Certificates will expire on August 31, not on the applicant's birthday. There is no such thing as reciprocity with other states anymore. A major goal is to have 95% of the applications done online, and have teaching certificates sent electronically.

Teacher and Principal Standards Update – J. Havelka stated that several focus groups meetings were held across the state and the standards are under revision before approval. There is a question concerning cultural competency in the standards. There is a need to be aware and respectful of diversity.

Program Approvals – P. Madsen

Doane College—Folio Review was September 15, 2011, on-site review is April 15-17, 2012. Chadron State College, Concordia University, and Nebraska Wesleyan University will have Folio Reviews during the summer of 2012. Sign-up sheets are available during Standing Committee meetings.

Lunch: Lunch was held at 12:00.

Standing Committees Session: 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Second General Session: President Schnabel resumed the meeting at 2:45 p.m.
Reports from Standing Committees:

Undergraduate Committee - A. Bone

Recommendations:

- a. Remove the Physical Science field endorsement from the revised Science endorsements.
- b. Remove the Speech and Theatre field endorsement and Journalism and Mass Communications subject endorsement.
- c. Table the Language Arts and Science field endorsements until more discussion is held concerning field and subject endorsements.
- d. Special Education Generalist was tabled until clarifications are made about the required number of hours.

Certification Committee – K. Rohwer (for M. Adler)

Recommendations/Questions:

- a. Add the word "Nebraska" before the word "institution" in the Superintendent Endorsement (005.03D2).
- b. Drop the words "evenly distributed" from Science endorsements 006.10D, 006.13D, 006.18D, 006.45D.
- c. Why is Physical Science revoked?
- d. The committee would like to continue to review Language Arts until questions can be answered/language clarified.
- e. How do Language Arts and English relate to the Clearing Endorsements Document?
- f. Are the standards our K-12 students held to reflected in what expectations are of Language Arts/English teachers (related to NeSA)?
- g. The committee would like to continue to review Special Education Generalist until questions are answered and language is clarified.

Graduate Committee – D. Jankovich reported discussions took place involving the Superintendent, Special Education Generalist, Science, Language Arts, School Psychologist, and Principal endorsements.

- a. D. Byrd moved and D. Moss seconded to move the Principal Endorsement forward for Full Council action.
- b. E. Scanlon moved and S. Brown seconded to move the School Psychologist endorsement forward for Full Council action.

Full Council Action – Roll call votes were taken on the Principal Endorsement and the School Psychologist endorsement. Both endorsements were approved and will be included in Rule 24 effective 8/1/12.

The March 9, 2012 NCTE meeting will be held in Omaha at UNO, Roskens Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.